

Claim 9(First Time Amended). The barrier implement of claim 1 [8] wherein the sheet is configured to circumscribe a passageway defined by an opening through the utility wall plate intended for access of a utility receptical therethrough.

Claim 10(First Time Amended). The barrier implement of claim $\underline{1}$ [8] wherein the sheet is configured to circumscribe a passageway defined by a space between the utility wall plate and the wall to which it abuts.

Claim 11(First Time Amended). The barrier implement of claim 1 [8] wherein the opposing ends of this sheet are substantially equal in length, and an opening defined through the sheet is intended for receipt of the utility receptacle therethrough.

CANCEL CLAIMS 12-20.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS:

-- 21. A barrier implement intended for obstructing a route of travel of crawling arthropods along a passageway, comprising:

a sheet configured to circumscribe a passageway along which arthropods crawl, a dimension of said sheet sized relative to said passageway, wherein the sheet is configured to circumscribe a passageway defined by an exterior surface of a narrow or elongated structure and provide a vermin impervious obstruction to the arthropods crawling along the narrow or the elongated structure;

an arthropod deterring component associated with said sheet for deterring said crawling arthropods and impeding their route of travel along said passageway; and a shield for the barrier implement.

22. A barrier implement intended for obstructing a route of travel of crawling arthropods along a passageway, comprising:

a sheet configured to circumscribe a passageway along which arthropods crawl, a dimension of said sheet sized relative to said passageway, wherein the barrier implement is configured to correspond to a flange; and

an arthropod deterring component associated with said sheet for deterring said crawling arthropods and impeding their route of travel along said passageway.

23. The barrier implement of claim 22 wherein the sheet is configured in an O-shape to fit behind a flange used for obstructing a route of travel along elongated structures.--.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. Applicant has rewritten claims 1, 9-11, canceled claims 8 and 12-20 and added new claims 21-23. Favorable reconsideration of this application is, consequently, earnestly solicited in view of the following remarks. Applicant gratefully appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 8-10 and 13-15 contain allowable subject matter. Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 4-6, 11 and 12 were rejected to under sec. 102b as being anticipated by Manak. The Manak reference describes a "plastic tree band" title, that is limited to wrapping a "plastic